Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 13 Feb 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 14 Feb 2021

Forecast Issued on Saturday 13 Feb 2021 at 04:31

Confidence: High for a change to milder, wetter conditions over the weekend, but lower confidence for timing of milder air arrival and for precipitation details.

Headline for Saturday 13 Feb 2021: A dry, cold and bright morning with some hazy sunshine, but cloud gradually increasing to bring patchy light snow mid-afternoon. Windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 13 Feb 2021

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Light snow	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
00%	00%	20%	70%	30%	<05%

Forecast for Saturday 13 Feb 2021

Weather: A dry, cold, bright morning with some hazy sunshine. Cloud will gradually increase and lower to bring some patchy light snow from mid-afternoon, dying out in evening with a few clear spells later.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% for much of the morning then falling to 10-30% in afternoon as snow arrives.

Visibility: Good, but poor in any blowing snow and in outbreaks of snow in afternoon, but very poor at height from mid-afternoon with extensive cloud down to 400 or 500m. Cloud more broken and occasionally above the tops in late evening.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 13 Feb 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	55/66 SE	55/69 SE	54/67 SE	50/62 SE	45/57 SE	42/55 SE	45/58 SE
600	55/73 SE	48/65 SE	45/60 SE	44/60 SE	40/55 SE	46/65 SE	42/60 SE
300	21/49 SE	22/51 SE	21/48 SE	18/43 SE	15/37 SE	20/46 SE	16/42 SE
Valley	17/42 SE	19/41 SE	17/38 SE	12/31 SE	13/31 SE	17/37 SE	14/34 SE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-8/-21	-9/-23	-8/-21	-7/-19	-7/-19	-6/-17	-5/-16
600	-8/-21	-8/-20	-6/-17	-5/-16	-6/-17	-5/-16	-4/-15
300	-5/-13	-4/-13	-2/-10	-2/-9	-3/-10	-2/-10	-2/-8
Valley	-3/-10	-2/-9	-0/-7	0/-5	-2/-7	-0/-6	0/-5
Freezing Level*	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A severe chill expected, even at lower levels. Perhaps some blowing snow, bringing poorer visibility. Possibly some glare in morning from lying snow, but cloud increasing,

Forecast for Sunday 14 Feb 2021

Weather: Some cloud breaks in early hours, but cloud increasing and lowering to bring outbreaks of snow or perhaps freezing rain from west by end of the night. Further snow to start the day, but soon turning to rain at all levels as milder air pushes in, with some heavy rain at times. Beginning of a thaw of snow from lower and perhaps mid-levels leading to risk of flooding and fast flowing water courses. Clearing to a few showers in evening with cloud lifting and breaking.

Maximum wind: South to southeast 40-60 gust 75 mph by morning, turning southwest 30-35 gust 45 mph in afternoon

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 40% in early hours, but almost no chance by the morning

Visibility: Mostly good at first, then poor or very poor with extensive cloud down to 400m

Temperature: **Valleys:** Zero to plus 2 C overnight, rising to plus 7 C
At 800m: Minus 5 C rising to plus 2 C
Freezing level: Rising to 400m overnight then well above the summits through the morning

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 12 February 2021. Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:58. Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. Here is today's report: Another fine, clear day in the Lakes with little change in the ground conditions but an increase in wind speed over yesterday. The high fells are in full winter condition and careful planning and preparation is required for anyone venturing above the snowline. Terrain is widely frozen down to valley level and ice is present on paths from low levels upwards, particularly around any drainage lines. Notably, the path leading up to Grisedale Tarn from Dunmail Raise is particularly affected by large are as of ice that are difficult to avoid. The fells in the west of the National Park have generally less snow cover than central and eastern fells. However, on the western side of Helvellyn, the snowline starts at roughly 600m with continuous cover up to summit level. Almost all of the snow encountered today was hard and unforgiving with a well-scoured but breakable crust and small patches of reactive windslab in some sheltered/depositional areas. Although small, these areas of windslab present a hazard on any steep ground as it is not very well bonded to the underlying crust, and are likely to be present on north through west-facing aspects, particularly at the top of gullies and scarp slopes with a similar aspect. Most of the paths and other terrain and water features above the snowline are buried under the snow and can't be relied upon to find your way if visibility deteriorates. A map and compass and good mountain navigation skills will be essential in such conditions in the coming days. Steep and exposed routes such as Swirral and Striding edge should only be attempted by those with sufficient winter mountaineering experience and appropriate equipment. In the current conditions, a slip in the wrong place (even on moderately steep ground) could result in a long and damaging fall. Small cornices are present around corrie rims, and although generally stable at the moment, they will become fragile when milder temperatures return.

Extreme care should be taken in areas in close proximity to the corrie rims which might not be visible in cloudy conditions. Full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots, and additional equipment including an ice axe, crampons/microspikes, headtorch and survival bag are all essential for anyone going into the higher fells. Goggles are also recommended for navigating in windy conditions. Please be conservative with your plans and aware of your limits. Temperature: minus 6.1 C, Maximum wind speed 20.0 mph, Wind chill: minus 16.0 C, Average wind speed: 16.3 mph

Issued at: 04:31 on Sat 13 Feb 2021

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